

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, February 10, 2023, marks the 175th anniversary of
2 the founding of Starr County; and

3 WHEREAS, Located in South Texas along the Rio Grande and the
4 U.S. border with Mexico, Starr County was visited by Spanish
5 explorers in the 17th century, but it was not until 1749 that the
6 Spanish crown issued land grants to settle the region; in 1763, the
7 first settlement was made by Francisco de la Garza Martinéz, who
8 founded Rancho Carnestolendas; another early settlement was
9 established later that year by the Saenz family; by 1850, Los Saenz
10 had been renamed Roma-Los Saenz and was a thriving community with an
11 economy based on cattle and sheep ranching; and

12 WHEREAS, For a time following the Texas Revolution, both
13 Mexico and the Republic of Texas laid claim to the area, which
14 became part of Nueces County after the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
15 ended the Mexican War in 1848; that year, the county was organized
16 and named for James Harper Starr; and

17 WHEREAS, Rio Grande City, the county seat, is located in the
18 heart of Los Caminos del Rio Heritage Corridor, which contains
19 numerous architectural and historical treasures from the 18th and
20 19th centuries; Roma, the second largest city in the county, is one
21 of the best remaining Spanish colonial townsites in the lower Rio
22 Grande Valley; the city was designated as a national historic
23 district and was used in the filming of *Viva Zapata*, starring Marlon
24 Brando; other notable towns include Escobares and La Grulla; and

H.R. No. 203

1 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike benefit from the
2 recreational opportunities afforded by Las Palomas State Wildlife
3 Management Area and Falcon International Reservoir as well as
4 year-round hunting; in addition, the county hosts a number of
5 annual events, including the Starr County Fair and the Fourth of
6 July Parade and Festival, held in Rio Grande City; and

7 WHEREAS, The people of Starr County share a rich and colorful
8 heritage, and they may indeed take great pride in their home as they
9 celebrate this milestone anniversary; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 175th anniversary of Starr
12 County and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes for the
13 future.

Guillen

H.R. No. 203

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 203 was adopted by the House on March 7, 2023, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House